

KKNPP-1 - Critical - at 1619 hrs  
21/01/2016

  <p><b>H.N.Sahu</b> <b>Station Director</b></p> <p>Phone No.04637-282103 Fax No. 04637-259820 <b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:hnsahu@kknpp.com">hnsahu@kknpp.com</a></p>	<p>यूक्लियर पावर कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड <b>Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited</b> CIN: U40104MH1987GOI149458 ( भारत सरकार का उपक्रम ) (A Government of India Enterprise) कुडनकुलम नाभिकीय विद्युत परियोजना <b>Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project</b> पो० कुडनकुलम , राधापुरम तालुक P.O., Kudankulam, Radhapuram Taluk तिरुनलवेलि जिला,, तमिलनाडु ६२७१०६, Tirunelveli District. Tamil Nadu-627106</p> <p>Registered Office: 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, Centre-1 World Trade Centre, Cuffe Parade, Colaba,Mumbai-400005</p>
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January 21, 2016

### Press Release

#### First reactor of KKNPP attains criticality

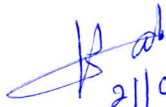
The First Unit of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) Unit #1(1000MW) has attained criticality (start of fission chain reaction) on 21<sup>st</sup> January , 2016 at 1619. hrs, after completion of planned Re-fuelling Shutdown (RSD) and maintenance activities.

Criticality was undertaken after conforming to the design requirements and after meeting all the stipulated statutory and regulatory requirements.

A team of AERB, NPCIL and Russian specialists is supervising the whole process.

The process of criticality started at 2349 hrs on 20.01.2016, at the next step, reactor power will be increased in stages to generate 1000 MW electricity as per laid down procedures and regulatory clearances.

The KKNPP comprise of VVER-1000 type reactor set up at Kudankulam in Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu in technical cooperation of Russian Federation.

  
21/01/2016

**H.N. Sahu**  
Station Director, KKNPP